

Year One in Congress

April 2009 – April 2010

[THE QUIGLEY CHRONICLES]

*“At 5-foot-7 and 150 pounds, he’s brought to Capitol Hill the same sort of damn-the-consequences, into-the-boards style he first displayed as an amateur hockey player and later translated into political terms as a reform member of the Cook County Board ... **In Washington—a place that relies on tradition and connections even more than Chicago does—Mr. Quigley has been his hard-hitting self.***

On the reform stuff, he’s not backing off ... He has a wider agenda, which includes everything from promoting gay rights to lifting U.S. visa restrictions on visitors from Poland, and, in person, is anything but an ideologue.”

– Greg Hinz, *Crain’s Chicago Business Journal*, March 8, 2010

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

After serving Illinois' 5th District for one year in Congress, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley has accomplished a volume of work in a comprehensive range of issue areas.

From health care to job creation to immigration reform to equal rights, Quigley has brought his tenacious and commonsense approach to government from Cook County to Washington. Since his election to Congress one year ago and for the decade prior as a Cook County Commissioner, Rep. Quigley has made **reform, transparency, and fiscal responsibility** the cornerstones of his legislative agenda. An ardent environmentalist who entered politics to conserve the earth, Quigley has not forgotten his roots or the voters who sent him to Washington.

Quigley believes that **the greatest cost of corruption and inefficiency is the public's trust**. He believes it is incredibly difficult to govern without it and has committed himself to doing what is right – even when it's not what is most popular – to regain it.

The following are *highlights* of what Quigley and his office have done both in Washington and at home in Chicago since April, 2009.

"Kudos to Illinois Congressman Mike Quigley"
-Wall Street Journal

"In Washington ... Mr. Quigley has been his hard-hitting self"
-Greg Hinz, *Crain's Chicago Business*

"A pleasant change of pace for Chicago's 5th district. Congress needs more people like Quigley."
-Peoria Journal-Star

"Quigley's in Washington, and it's good to see he hasn't changed."
-Chicago Tribune

"He's a wonk and a workaholic."
-Carol Marin, *Chicago Sun-Times*

"Keep it up, Congressman."
-Chicago Tribune

CONTENTS

- **About Mike Quigley**
- **Choice**
- **Climate Change / Clean Energy**
- **Constituent Service and Community Outreach**
- **Education**
- **Equality (LGBT Issues)**
- **Foreign Policy**
- **Gun Control**
- **Health Care Reform**
- **HIV/AIDS**
- **Housing**
- **Immigration**
- **Judiciary**
- **Labor**
- **Local Projects**
- **Military Procurement**
- **REINVENTING GOVERNMENT – Changing the Status Quo**
 - **Fiscal Responsibility, Reform, Transparency, & Accountability**
- **Small Business**
- **Trade**
- **Transportation**
- **Veterans**

MULTIMEDIA

For a photo montage and video compilation, please visit:

- <http://tiny.cc/r50r2>

This packet and additional materials may be found at www.quigley.house.gov. Underlined sections to follow are links to floor speeches and other online content. Unless otherwise noted, all pulled quotes to follow can be attributed to Rep. Quigley.

ABOUT MIKE QUIGLEY



Mike Quigley was elected to Congress to represent Illinois' 5th District on April 7, 2009. A former Cook County Commissioner, Quigley has served his community for over twenty years.

He began his career serving as an aide to former 44th Ward Alderman Bernie Hansen and became a champion for environmental protection, equal rights, and ethical, open government.

As the Commissioner from Cook County's 10th District, Quigley fought for transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility, earning the reputation as an honest and effective leader on reform.

During his time on the Cook County Board of Commissioners, Quigley sponsored every piece of major environmental legislation adopted by Cook County government, and still regularly participates in local clean-up and restoration efforts, earning him awards from the Audubon Society and the Sierra Club. The Chicago Reader has said he is "arguably the greenest elected official in Chicago."

Quigley has also fought for equal rights for those in the LGBT community, additional protections for victims of domestic abuse, and a woman's right to choose.

A staunch advocate for government reform and accountability, Quigley wrote several revolutionary reports laying out detailed plans for the "reinventing" of Cook County government, to make it more efficient and more responsive to its citizens.

Quigley did his undergraduate work at Roosevelt University, earned a master's degree in public policy from the University of Chicago, and a law degree from the Loyola University School of Law, all in Chicago. He also served as an adjunct professor of political science at Loyola University Chicago and Roosevelt University, lecturing on politics, the environment and local government. He was a practicing lawyer for almost twenty years.

Quigley lives with his wife Barbara, daughters Alyson and Meghan, and two dogs in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood where he has lived since 1982. In his free time, he roots for the Cubs, Blackhawks, and enjoys playing ice hockey.



Committees/Subcommittees

Mike serves on the Committees on **Judiciary** and **Oversight and Government Reform**.

As a member of the **House Committee on Judiciary**, Mike is able to put his wealth of legal and legislative experience to great use:

- The **Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy** has jurisdiction over antitrust law, monopolies, and restraints of trade, administration of U.S. courts, Federal Rules of Evidence, Civil and Appellate Procedure, judicial ethics, other appropriate matters as referred by the chairman and relevant oversight.
- The **Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security** has jurisdiction over Federal Criminal Code, drug enforcement, sentencing, parole and pardons, internal and homeland security, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, prisons, criminal law enforcement, other appropriate matters as referred by the chairman and relevant oversight.

As a member of the **House Committee on Oversight and Governmental Reform**, Mike has the opportunity to work to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse, while increasing transparency and making government more responsive to its constituents:

- The **Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement** has jurisdiction over management of government operations, reorganizations of the executive branch, and federal procurement.
- The **Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs** has jurisdiction over oversight of national security, homeland security, and foreign affairs.

Caucus Membership

Mike belongs to the following Caucuses in the 111th Congress:

- Congressional Transparency Caucus (*founding Co-Chair*)
- Congressional Equality Caucus (LGBT)
- Congressional Pro-Choice Caucus
- Great Lakes Task Force
- Congressional Bike Caucus
- Congressional Bosnia Caucus
- Congressional Hellenic Caucus
- Congressional High Speed Rail Caucus
- Congressional Hockey Caucus (*founding Co-Chair*)
- House Livable Communities Task Force
- Congressional Indian Caucus
- Friends of Ireland Caucus
- Congressional Poland Caucus
- Congressional Ukrainian Caucus
- US-China Working Group

CHOICE

See also: Health Care

Congressman Quigley believes that our first order of business is to prevent unintended pregnancies and by supporting organizations with family planning services, we can do just that. Education and communication are principal factors that will deter unplanned pregnancies. That said, Mike believes that a woman's right to choose is just that – her right – and will continue to fight tirelessly to protect it.

Protecting Choice in Health Care Reform

- Worked closely with pro-choice members to ensure **abortion rights and family planning services** are included in the House **health care reform bill**
- **Successfully whipped for the Pro- Choice Caucus** to stop the passage of the **Stupak-Pitts amendment** that prevents women from paying for abortions with their own private dollars
- **Was one of only two men to speak** on the floor in **opposition to the Stupak-Pitts anti-choice amendment** to the House healthcare bill
- Signed onto a **letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi promising not to vote for a final healthcare bill** that includes language like the Stupak amendment that further restricts a woman's right to choose
- Led the charge against the inclusion of anti-choice language in the final health care bill and refused to support a final health care bill that would compromise a woman's right to choose until leadership pledged not to allow for a side-deal or amendment that would allow Rep. Stupak's anti-choice language back into the bill. Since leadership needed his support, **Quigley was able to help pass reform while also protecting a woman's right to choose by using his vote strategically.**

“The problem for Pelosi is that if she gets Stupak on board, she may lose abortion rights legislators, such as Rep. Mike Quigley (Ill.).”

– The Hill, 3/21/2010

- Voted against the Motion to Recommit (MTR, last-chance amendment) on the final health care bill which included the anti-choice Stupak-Pitts language
- Working closely with Rep. DeGette to ensure that when implementing the **Nelson provision** in the Senate bill,

HHS mitigates the harmful effects of the language (e.g. allowing women to write one check per year to pay for abortion coverage rather than a separate check each month)

Protecting Choice in Other Legislation

- Spoke out on the House floor against Rep. **Pence's amendment** to cut Title X funds to Planned Parenthood for family planning and basic **preventive and primary care** services such as breast cancer and cervical cancer screenings
- Signed Rep. Slaughter's letter to OMB Director Orzag requesting \$1 billion for international family planning funding, with \$65 million for UNFPA
- Issued a statement commemorating the 37th **Anniversary of the Roe v. Wade** Supreme Court decision

"Why, when we are working so diligently to reform our health care system, would we take away the only source of health care many women receive?"

"For over eight months this body has strived to overcome the health care inequalities in our country. But this [Stupak] amendment disrupts that sense of equality. This amendment says only women who can afford insurance deserve access to reproductive health care... that women who need a little help paying for health care have to surrender their right to privacy... It is wrong, and we should oppose it."

CLIMATE CHANGE, CLEAN ENERGY

As a Cook County Commissioner and now a Member of Congress, Mike has worked tirelessly for environmentally-conscious government. He believes innovative environmental and energy policy is necessary to combat increasing carbon

“...he joined politics for a singular reason: to fight for the environment.”

Washington Independent, 4/8/09

emissions which endanger our planet’s environmental health. His goals include promoting renewable energy and common sense policy to safeguard our natural resources for future generations. Mike also believes that renewable energy can be a cornerstone of sustainable economic growth, creating jobs and spurring economic development while simultaneously cutting our reliance on foreign energy sources.

- Voted for the American Clean Energy and Security Act (**ACES**) – to create cleaner air, jobs, improve health, protect the environment, and make us more energy independent
- **Authored H.Res.1106, a resolution to “commend the United States Army for its achievements in and commitment to environmental sustainability and energy security.”** Additionally Mike toured the Pentagon and met with officials from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Installations and Environment, to discuss energy efficiency initiatives within the Army.



Protecting Our Wildlife

- Introduced the **Federal Birdsafe Buildings Bill, H.R. 4797**, which calls for each public building constructed, acquired, or altered by the General Services Administration (GSA) to incorporate, to the maximum extent possible, bird-safe building materials and design features
- Cosponsored H.R. 3398, the **Protect America's Wildlife Act of 2009**, which amends the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to **impose criminal penalties on anyone who knowingly violates any regulation prohibiting the shooting or harassing of birds, fish, or other animals from aircraft** (airborne hunting)
- Cosponsored H.R. 2807, the **America's Wildlife Heritage Act** which sets forth requirements concerning the maintenance of viable populations of existing native and desired non-native species within each planning area in the National Forest System's or

the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) public lands. Signed on to numerous additional measures extending protection under the National Wilderness Preservation System and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

“We have to remember that the cost of inaction far outweighs today’s price tag. Energy costs are on the rise due to increased demand, and we’re on an unsustainable path that will increase costs much more if we don’t take action now.”

Conserving Natural Resources – Clean Air & Water

- Participated in **Great Lakes Week** in Washington; **cosponsored H.R. 4755, Great Lakes Ecosystem Protection Act of 2010**, which is supported overwhelmingly by the Great Lakes community:
 - Authorizes the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative at \$475 million/year which is the level of funding initially proposed by the President
 - Authorizes a new advisory group to the EPA. It is a 2-tiered group which is loosely modeled on the GLRC
 - Authorizes the Federal Interagency Task Force which was established in 2004 by Executive Order which means that it could be dissolved by Executive Order
 - Reauthorizes the Great Lakes Legacy Act which expires in 2010. The authority is for \$150 million/year, the level recommended by the GLRC Strategy Report
 - Reauthorizes EPA’s GLNPO at level funding (\$25 million)
- Encouraged the Environmental Protection Agency to **demand accountability from BP** for their alleged Clean Air Act violations at its Whiting refinery
- Worked with the Great Lakes Task Force to support **\$475 million for the clean-up and restoration of the Great Lakes** and Great Lake states
- Made floor statement on the fallacy of “**clean coal**”
- Cosponsored a letter asking the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to establish a “clear policy, standard and guidance to ensure that all new construction and major retrofits of **federal-aid roadways reduce or eliminate related stormwater discharges**, mimic pre-construction hydrology to the maximum extent practicable, and are designed and constructed to restore and maintain water quality of local waterbodies.”

Sustainable Communities – Buildings, Roads

- Original cosponsor of H.R. 4690, **the Livable Communities Act**, which funds regional planning to make our communities more livable. This funding will be available to **implement sustainable development projects**.
- Drafted an amendment for the series of appropriations bills that would mandate **federal buildings to be constructed in compliance with green standards**

- Cosponsored H.R. 3734, the **Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act**, which requires the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to establish an urban revitalization and livable communities program to provide federal grants to eligible general purpose local governments for various park and recreation purposes, including grants for rehabilitation and construction, innovation, at-risk youth recreation, and recovery programs

Environmental Education

- Introduced and passed a bill to support the comprehensive initiatives of the Chicago Wilderness Alliance and the “**Children’s Outdoor Bill of Rights**,” which is designed to **promote the outdoors as a vital part of childhood education**. Quigley introduced the bill – H. Res. 860 – to encourage lawmakers to build and support coalitions between advocacy groups and education policymakers, modeled off of a recent effort in Chicago to promote environmental literacy.

- Cosponsored the **No Child Left Inside Act**, H.R. 2054, one piece of the larger bill, No Child Left Behind, which amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to include resources for **environmental education**.

“An advocate for conservation, recycling, and eco-friendly construction, he’s arguably the greenest elected official in Chicago.”

- The Chicago Reader, 9/22/06

- Sent a letter to Dr. Christopher Koch, Illinois State Board of Education, in support of a **state Environmental Literacy Plan**

Vehicle Standards

- Voted for “**Cash for Clunkers**” to provide vouchers worth up to \$4,500 if consumers trade in an older car or truck getting 18 mpg or less for a more efficient vehicle. The program promotes cleaner air, helps families buy a new car, and supports the auto industry.
- Gave floor speech commending President Obama’s announcement of new mileage standards (CAFÉ), which will reduce carbon emissions 30% by 2016 and reduce our dependence on foreign oil

Other Efforts

- Sent a letter to Dept. Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano calling for greater efforts to **mitigate the environmental degradation** being caused by the construction and maintenance of the **Mexican border wall**
 - Signed on to the **Border Security and Responsibility Act**, H.R. 2076, which establishes a border protection strategy for the international land borders of the U.S., to **address the ecological and environmental impacts of the Mexican border wall**

- Cosponsored H.R. 3692, the **National Forest Roadless Area Conservation Act** which identifies roadless areas within the National Forest System set forth in specified maps as National Forest Inventoried Roadless Areas, and directs the Secretary of Agriculture to manage such Areas to maintain their roadless character
- Signed on to a letter, along with members of the Great Lakes Task Force, addressed to EPA Administrator Jackson, amongst others, urging action on the Asian Carp. Signed on to H.R. 3173, the **Asian Carp Prevention and Control Act** to **add the bighead carp to the list of injurious species** that are prohibited from being shipped or imported into the United States
- Frequently participates in clean-and-green work days in district, rides his bike all over D.C. (even to events at the White House!), and recently went “fishing” for Asian Carp with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources



CONSTITUENT SERVICE AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Upon taking office, Congressman Quigley placed a high priority on excellent constituent service and community outreach. He expanded his District Office staff to include additional and multi-lingual caseworkers, extended his office hours, and makes himself accessible at various “satellite” offices (“Congress on Your Corner,” “Congress at Your Company”) whenever his voting schedule permits.

Quigley’s dedicated casework staff has assisted hundreds of constituents who need help cutting through the red tape on a variety of federal issues, including Social Security, Medicare, immigration/visas, passports, loan modifications, requests for flags and commendations, veterans’ benefits, federal employment, the post office, service academy nominations, grants, and more.

By the numbers

In the last year, Mike and his staff have:

- Honored **48** constituents for their service by submitting Congressional Record Statements
- Held **98** personal meetings with the Congressman and constituents on issues ranging from the Iraq War to mortgage reform to Health Care
- Opened **458** cases; closed **568** cases (some carried over from Rep. Emanuel’s term)
- Created an LGBT Advisory Council – an advocacy group that helps Mike understand what key issues are affecting their community so that he can make informed decisions and take swift action on equality in Washington. Held **2** full Council meetings for the **75** current members
- Held **2** art contests – the Congressional Art Contest (in which **5** high schools participated), and a new initiative – the Census Art Contest – for middle school students
- Visited with residents at **10** Congress on your Corner events throughout Chicago and the suburbs



- Organized **6** constituent service fairs, including **2** Senior Fairs with over **100** constituents & over **16** government agencies (from which **6** new cases originated), **1** Veterans Fair attended by over **200** veterans & **16** government agencies, and **1** in-office tax clinic
- Attended nearly **400** events out in the community, including:
 - **4** arts events
 - **42** street festivals and block parties, including **1** Rib Fest, **2** Garden Walks, **1** “Quigley Cup” hockey tournament, and a **1** chili cook-off!
 - **74** community meetings, including **44** attended personally by Quigley
 - **19** tours of local businesses and non-profit organizations, including the Lakeview Food Pantry, Navistar, Irish American Heritage Center, and the Northlake Police Station
 - **14** schools and education events
 - **18** environment workdays, including beach clean-ups and neighborhood greening
 - **12** health care visits, including touring district hospitals and local clinics
 - **8** meetings about housing and mortgage issues
 - **34** immigration events
 - **11** events about Israel/the Jewish community
 - **16** meetings about equality with leaders in the LGBT community
 - **46** neighborhood group meetings
 - **12** additional government and non-profit organization events
 - **20** veterans/military events
 - **47** visits to senior buildings or senior events
 - **17** meetings with elected officials

CASEWORK SUCCESS STORY: NO MORE PROBLEMS AT THE PHARMACY

A constituent was eligible for Medicare Part D and Medicaid and should not have been paying anything for her prescriptions. However, when she went to the pharmacy to pick up her prescription, she was told that her medicines were not covered and would cost her \$200. After borrowing money from a family member to purchase the medicine that she needed, she contacted Quigley’s district office. In one day, Mike’s staff was able to work with the Department of Human Services to get the correct benefit information to the pharmacist. The constituent can now receive the prescriptions she needs at no cost. In addition, staff was able to secure a refund of the \$200 from her first prescription.

EDUCATION

Congressman Quigley believes that an investment in our children's education is an investment our country's future, both economically and socially. The importance of providing our kids the best possible education cannot be overstated, especially as so many Americans battle economic hardship. Mike believes that rebuilding our economy in a sustainable way begins with education and policy should reflect that reality.

- Quigley's first cosponsored bill to become law was the **Civil Rights Oral History Project**, H.R. 586, which establishes a national program to collect and preserve the personal stories of individuals who were involved in the American Civil Rights movement so that these first-hand testimonials will be available for educational and public use. Quigley joined fellow cosponsors for the bill signing in the Oval Office with President Obama.



- **Voted for the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act**, which makes the largest investment in higher education since the GI Bill following World War II by expanding high-quality education opportunities to all American students. The bill requires all new Federal student loans to originate with the Federal government, rather than private lenders, saving millions that can be reinvested into the education system. Specifically, the bill invests \$36 billion in Pell Grants, caps monthly student loan payments at 10 percent of discretionary income, forgives all remaining debt after 20 years, and invests \$2 billion community colleges.
- Cosponsored H.R. 2597, the **Positive Behavior for Safe and Effective Schools Act**, which allows schools to increase implementation of school-wide positive behavior programs
- Cosponsored H.R. 3545, the **Full-Service Community Schools Act** of 2009, which authorizes \$200 million/year for five years to fund grants that support “full-service” schools that coordinate social service programs and build community-based organizations

- Gave a speech supporting higher-education at Jesuit Educators conference
- **Cosponsored H.R. 3070, The Families of Orphans Act**, which creates the Office for Orphan Policy Diplomacy and Development to support the preservation and reunification of families; and the provision of permanent parental care for orphans
- **Cosponsored H.R. 3110, the FACE Act**, which allows children being adopted by U.S. citizens to automatically become U.S. citizens upon their adoption
- Cosponsored H.R. 2262 – the **Safe Schools Improvement Act** to amend the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act to include bullying and harassment prevention programs
- Visited several schools in the district to discuss programs and needs with students, parents, and teachers



EQUALITY (LGBT)

See also: HIV/AIDS, Foreign Affairs, Health Care

Mike firmly believes in President Abraham Lincoln's vision, shared nearly 150 years ago, that our country is on an evolutionary path to full equality for all Americans and that our fight for human rights is ongoing. Whether it's fighting for marriage equality, fighting against senseless discrimination, or fighting on behalf of those who cannot defend themselves, Mike believes that we must be guided by doing what's right, what's fair, and what's just. His first co-sponsorship in the House was a bill to strengthen federal hate crimes legislation, and he believes it is our moral obligation to ensure justice for all, and not allow race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation to divide us.

Immigration Equality

- Working with Rep. Gutierrez to include the **Uniting American Families Act, H.R. 1024**, in the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Bill; Spoke on the House floor and signed a letter to the President and Congressional leaders expressing the sentiment that "comprehensive" reform must include LGBT binational couples
- Was the **co-lead of a letter to President Obama and House and Senate leaders to express strong support for a comprehensive immigration reform bill** which would end discrimination against LGBT binational families

"It saddens me to think that the struggle for immigration reform, a movement based on the fundamental principles of equality could push on without including LGBT families."

Repealing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT)

- Supported H.R. 1283 - the Military Readiness Enhancement Act – which would essentially repeal the **military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy**, and made a strong statement to the media as well. The effort has picked up steam in light of recent comments made by the President, Former Vice President Dick Cheney, and Adm. Mullen



- Signed onto Rep. Hastings' letter urging President to issue an executive order to **immediately suspend policy**
- In October, spoke on the House floor honoring 2nd Lt. Sandy Tsao, who came out as a lesbian in the United States Army and then wrote the President to tell him she could no longer serve her country because she is a lesbian. Also spoke honoring Lee Reinhart, Operation Specialist in the Navy. Lee earned the respect of his command while serving openly in one tour of duty and then ended up in a less accepting command and being discharged.
- In an effort to **increase transparency on the effects the DADT policy has on our military** and by extension our national defense, signed a letter to the Secretary of Defense requesting data on the current number of DADT discharges since January 1, 2009 to the present. Also requested monthly reports thereafter to Congress detailing the number of and information about enlisted service members and officers discharged under the policy

"I recently had the humbling opportunity to travel to Iraq and the Middle East. I didn't see soldiers who were black or white, men or women, straight or gay, Democrats or Republicans. I saw Americans."

Recognition in the U.S. Census

- Signed letter to Peter Orszag (Director of the Office on Management and Budget) on **the recognition of same-sex couples in the census**. While the Defense of Marriage Act prohibits federal programs from recognizing same-sex marriage, the letter indicated that Mike believes it does not prohibit the Census Bureau from leaving unaltered the answers of same-sex couples.
- Sent a personal letter to the President on the issue of same-sex couples being recognized in the **2010 census**. The Administration and Bureau have indicated progress.

The Obama administration was under pressure to change the Census policy. Rep. Mike Quigley (D., Ill.) sent a letter Tuesday to Mr. Obama, urging him to order the bureau to release same-sex marriage data as part of its standard tabulation of the 2010 Census.

-Wall Street Journal, 6/19/09

Marriage Equality

- Original co-sponsor of the Respect for Marriage Act of 2009, H.R. 3567, which would replace the Defense of Marriage Act that defines marriage as between a man and a woman

Hate Crimes

- Cosponsored the Local Law Enforcement **Hate Crimes Prevention Act (H.R. 1913)**, which expands Federal law enforcement **protection for victims of hate crimes** due to actual or perceived religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. Passed and signed into law by President

Workplace Equality (ENDA, Domestic Partner Benefits)

- Stood with Reps. Barney Frank and Tammy Baldwin at the introduction of the new **Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA, H.R. 2981)**. ENDA would add gender identity and sexual orientation to the list of items for which an employer cannot discriminate.
- Cosponsored H.R. 2517, the **Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act** to provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees
- Cosponsored H.R. 2625, the **Tax Equity for Health Plan Beneficiaries Act** to amend the IRS code to extend the exclusion from gross income for employer-provided health coverage for employees' spouses and dependent children to coverage provided to other eligible designated beneficiaries of employees.
- Drafted an amendment for H.R. 626, Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act, to allow **a federal employee's domestic partner to take leave** for the birth/adoption of a child
- **Introduced and passed an amendment to the Domestic Partnership Benefits Act** which requires the GAO to examine how offering benefits to all employees, regardless of sexual orientation, will impact the federal government's ability to recruit and retain employees

International LGBT/Human Rights

- Helped pass the **Foreign Relations Reauthorization Act, H.R. 2410**. Sec. 333 of the Act contains landmark provisions to recognize a commitment to human rights and **address the growing trend of severe human rights abuses** based on sexual orientation and gender identity in many parts of the world.
- Signed letter that asks the Department of State to intervene on behalf of those in the Iraqi LGBT community **urging the end of the persecution and execution**
- Met with Rep. Polis and Deputy Director of Multilateral Affairs, Bureau of Democracy Human Rights and Labor for the State Department to discuss **international LGBT issues**
- **Iraq/Iran LGBT Refugee Letter**: Letter to Secretary Clinton expressing concerns about the safety of LGBT individuals in countries where their health and lives are threatened and the governments provide inadequate protection

“Rep. Mike Quigley hasn’t masked his disdain for politicians’ willingness to upload anti-gay policies.”
-Progress Illinois, 9/15/09

- Sent letter to President Obama expressing serious concerns about the **grave injustice occurring in Uganda and other countries** that are taking steps to criminalize or otherwise severely discriminate against their LGBT communities. Sent another letter to Ugandan President Museveni urging him to use every means possible to convey to leaders in Parliament that this appalling bill is reckless in both intent and possible impact, and should be withdrawn immediately.

Other Efforts

- Created an **LGBT Advisory Council**, an advocacy group of 75 current members who help Mike understand what key issues are affecting their community so that he can make informed decisions and take swift action on equality in Washington
- Cosponsored H. Res. 433, recognizing the **40th anniversary of “Stonewall”**
- Member of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender **Congressional Equality Caucus** which seeks equal rights and fair treatment for the LGBT community.
- Inducted into the **Chicago Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Hall-of-Fame** for commitment and service to the LGBT community
- Secured \$475,000 in funding for the Services and Advocacy for LGBT Elders (SAGE) program at Center on Halsted
- Cosponsored H.R. 2262, **Safe Schools Improvement Act** to amend the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act to include bullying, harassment prevention programs
- Cosponsored H. Con. Res. 92 to support the goals and ideals of the National Day of Silence in **bringing attention to anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender name-calling, bullying, and harassment** faced by individual in schools
- Cosponsored H.R.4376, the Freedom From Discrimination in Credit Act of 2009, which bars **discrimination against LGBT persons when applying for credit**

“For years, Quigley was the strongest voice on the Cook County Board for gay rights.”
 - Chicago Sun-Times, 1/5/03

FOREIGN POLICY

See also: Immigration, Equality



Our country is currently fighting two wars abroad – one in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. Mike is committed to providing the resources our soldiers need and ensuring that our servicemen and women are not in harm’s way one day more than is necessary. Mike’s recent trips to Iraq, Israel, and Gaza

reemphasized his goals to establish sound Middle East policy, and he believes that Congress and the Obama Administration should work together toward responsible, pragmatic, and thoughtful foreign policy.

- Spoke on the floor on the need to **ratify a comprehensive nuclear test ban** treaty to limit the proliferation of nuclear weapons
- Cosponsored H. Res. 252, acknowledging the **Armenian Genocide**
- **Introduced H.Res. 1143, Honoring the Community of Democracies on its 10th Anniversary**, an organization founded by Madeleine Albright to foster democracy in developing nations, which is head-quartered in Krakow, Poland
- **Signed letter supporting the President’s request for the International Affairs budget in the FY11 budget.** The international affairs budget comprises only 2.4% of the total budget, but provides funding for the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), food and agriculture assistance, disaster relief, maternal and child health, and other vital international programs.

“It will be hard to wake up now and not think about those young men and women from my own state, who have been away from their families for years, facing gun fire and bombs on a daily basis. It was a sobering experience, and I’ll never forget it.”

Poland /Eastern Europe

- Advocate of key issues important to his Polish American constituency, supporting measures such as granting **Casimir Pulaski** honorary posthumous US citizenship and honoring the May 3rd **Polish Constitution** by marching in the parade
- Working hard to extend and eventually make permanent the **Visa Waiver Program (VWP)**. Introduced H.R. 2954 to extend the VWP requirement for an additional two years, while exit plan strategies are still being developed. Sent a letter to the President. **Got VWP included in Comprehensive Immigration Reform bill**
- Delivered a speech calling on the administration not to forget about all that Poland has done for the US even as we shift our missile defense from there



- Meeting with Polish and Polish American leaders including Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski, Polish Undersecretary of State Mariusz Handzlik, Polish Ambassador to the U.S. Robert Kupiecki, and President of the Polish American Congress Frank Spula to discuss the importance of including Poland as a programmatic country in the VWP
- Attended an event at the U.S. Capitol Rotunda for **Holocaust Days of Remembrance**, a ceremony honoring those persecuted and chance to honor the group of Polish Righteous.
- Cosponsored every major bill, resolution or letter supported by the Polish Caucus; Is a member of the **Polish and Ukrainian Caucuses**.

“Since being elected to Congress several months ago, Quigley has been an ardent supporter of Poland, leading a charge to include Poland in and make permanent the Visa Waiver Program.”

- Polish News, 10/9/09

Middle East

- Visited Iraq, Israel and Gaza within first several months in Congress to see area firsthand
- While on a Congressional Delegation to Iraq, questioned Iraqi Officials about the **impact of water policies and supply** on long term stability
- **Cosponsored H.Res. 704, Support Protecting the Human Rights of the Residents of Camp Ashraf**, which denounces the ongoing violence by the Iraqi security forces against the residents of Camp Ashraf in **Iraq**, and calls upon the Iraqi gov't to live up to its commitment to the U.S. to ensure the continued well-being of those living in Camp Ashraf
- Spoke on the floor in support of sanctioning Iran, specifically supporting the passage of the **Iran Refined Petroleum Sanctions Act, H.R. 2194**, after recent events that confirmed Iran is pursuing nuclear weapons
- Cosponsored the **Iran Sanctions Enabling Act** of 2009 (H.R.1327), which states that it is the policy of the U.S. to support the decision of state and local governments to divest from, and to prohibit the investment of assets they control, in companies that have investments of more than \$20 million in Iran's energy sector
- **Cosponsored H.R. 4647, the Iran Human Rights Sanctions Act**, which imposes sanctions on Iranian government officials who are complicit in human rights abuses committed against the citizens of Iran, and is the companion bill to legislation introduced in the Senate by Senators Lieberman and McCain

Israel

- Spoke on the floor **after Vice President Biden's trip to Israel**, and Israel's announcement of 1,600 **new settlements in East Jerusalem**, on the importance of friendship between the U.S. and Israel, and the need to remember the most significant threat in the Middle East – **a nuclear Iran**
- Spoke on floor in support of H. Res. 867, which opposes enforcement and further consideration of the **Goldstone Report**
- Signed letter to the President requesting that he continue to **fully implement our security assistance agreement with Israel** and allocate the necessary resources to fulfill this commitment
- Signed letter led by Reps. Crowley and Smith to director of the European Commission urging the director to **condemn the recent acts of anti-Semitism** in Europe and work to stop such attacks from occurring

“We must make it clear we are united in our opposition to a nuclear Iran. While no one gains by an escalation of tensions, we must make it clear that we value and support our relationship with the state and people of Israel.”

Central Asia

- Asked Ambassador Richard Holbrooke at a hearing about **Pakistan's** nuclear program and the **American drone attacks that continue to kill Pakistani civilians** and turn public opinion against America and its mission in the Pakistani/Afghan theater

"I have been to Gaza. I have seen the desolation and poverty in which the people of Gaza survive.

I have been to Sderot, where civilians have been hammered relentlessly by rockets from Gaza.

I have seen the fortified recreation center there, complete with bomb shelters, the only place children feel safe to play."

- **Pakistan Aid:** At an Oversight Committee hearing, asked Daniel Feldman, the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, State Dept. and James Bever, Director, Afghanistan-Pakistan Task Force, USAID **if drone attacks make development projects more difficult.** He also asked how USAID and State Department overcome the deep distrust felt by many Pakistanis toward America and our aid caused by the drone attacks. According to a June, 2009 Pew Poll, 64% of Pakistanis sees the U.S. as an enemy, and only 9% describe it as a partner. *"Doesn't it seem that no matter what you do on the ground or how many great projects you complete, all that good will is wiped out by drone attacks?"*

- Pressed various watchdog groups responsible for oversight of **Afghanistan**

and Pakistan at a National Security and Foreign Affairs Subcommittee hearing asking: *"What gives you some hope that in that land with limited access, extraordinary dangers and a culture of corruption, we should have any faith at all that, despite your best efforts, we aren't putting our folks at risk and wasting billions of dollars?"*

- Signed on to H.R. 2404, which asks Secretary of Defense Robert Gates to provide Congress with **an exit strategy for troops in Afghanistan** by end of year
- Sent a letter to Secretary Gates requesting an immediate **review** of Department of Defense's **supply delivery efforts in Afghanistan** and appropriate action to ensure adequate supplies are reaching our troops in the field (*Washington Post*: U.S. Marines "are short of basic equipment and supplies ranging from radios and vehicles to uniforms.")
- Signed onto Rep. McGovern letter to President urging him to reject any recommendation for a further **escalation of U.S. military forces in Afghanistan**
- Gave a floor speech in which he asked **ten questions about Afghanistan**, and emphasized that without a clear objective, we can never have a winning strategy

- Gave a floor speech in which he stressed the need to develop a strategy without borders to combat an enemy without borders and asked: "Has eight years in Afghanistan made us safer?"
- **Voted in favor of a resolution which called for the removal of all U.S. troops in Afghanistan** within 30 days of its adoption, but gave the president until Dec. 31, 2010 to pull out the military if the 30-day deadline was considered unsafe
- **Cosponsored H.R. 1318 Afghanistan-Pakistan Security and Prosperity Enhancement Act**, supported by Ambassador Holbrooke, which provides Afghanistan and Pakistan with trade preferences on certain products exported to the U.S. from poor, rural areas, with the goal of spurring economic development and encouraging support for U.S. efforts in the region

South America

- Signed McGovern letter to Foreign Affairs conferees urging inclusion of language bringing **greater transparency to attendance lists** at Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, formerly School of the America
- Signed onto McGovern letter to Sec. Clinton urging a realignment of our **aid to Colombia** to emphasize human rights and the rule of law over military support
- Signed on to H.Res. 630, which **condemns the coup d'etat in Honduras**, calling for the reinstatement of President Zelaya.



Cuba

- Signed on to Rep. Wasserman Schultz letter to President Obama urging him to uphold its current policies toward Cuba until Cuba has made more progress toward human rights improvements

Africa

- **Cosponsored H.R. 2478, The LRA Disarmament and Northern Uganda Recovery Act**, which directs the President to create a strategy for U.S. support of multilateral efforts to protect civilians from LRA attacks, authorizes the President to increase humanitarian assistance to countries surrounding Uganda taking refugees, and expresses a sense of Congress that we should increase recovery assistance to the Ugandan Government if it demonstrates a commitment to transparent, accountable reconstruction

GUN CONTROL

Chicago's gun ban / SCOTUS challenge

- Led the effort to submit an amicus brief urging the Supreme Court to uphold the City of Chicago's longstanding handgun ban as a constitutional effort to protect its citizens from gun violence. 54 other members of Congress joined Quigley in signing a friend of the court" brief in support of Chicago's ordinance, which is being challenged on 2nd amendment grounds.
- "500 Chicago Public School students have been involved in a gun-related incident in the last two years. Greater measures must be taken to protect our citizens."*
- Made a statement on the House floor about the importance of upholding the City of Chicago's hand gun ban, and also reiterated support for efforts to renew the life-saving Assault Weapons Ban and to close the gun-show loophole
 - Published editorials in *Huffington Post* and *Chicago Sun-Times* (with Chicago Mayor Richard Daley) arguing for maintaining sensible gun control restrictions at the local government level and urging the Court to find the Chicago gun ban law constitutional

Other Efforts

- Questioned Attorney General Holder on the **assault weapons ban**; called on Administration to reinstate ban
- Cosponsored legislation introduced by Congresswoman McCarthy (NY) to crack down on illegal guns, known as the Gun Trafficking Prevention Act of 2009
- Made a statement on the House floor to memorialize the courage of Blair Holt, a 16-year old Chicago public school student who was shot and killed when a mentally disabled gang member opened fire on a crowded city bus

"Blair Holt took a bullet to protect a friend. Is it too much to ask this House to take a tough vote to protect our kids?"

- Co-sponsored bipartisan legislation to close the "terror gap" loophole. Currently, individuals on the government's terrorist watch list can be barred from boarding airplanes, but not from purchasing high-powered guns or explosives.
- Sent a letter to Chairman, Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime Terrorism and

Homeland Security requesting a hearing be called to consider legislation that would **close the gun show loophole**, and examine other issues related to **illegal gun trafficking**

- Locally, participated in National Night Out (violence prevention community event), toured several local police stations, and worked with Uhlich Children's Action Network on its youth gun control initiative, "Hands without Guns"

HEALTH CARE

Mike believes that comprehensive health care reform is vital to our citizens and future prosperity of the nation. He was proud to support the historic passage of a health care reform package that will extend coverage to 32 million Americans, end the abusive practices of insurance companies, and begin to curb skyrocketing costs. With 47 million uninsured Americans and insurance premiums doubling in the last eight years and increasing 3.7 times faster than wages, the status quo was unsustainable for families and businesses. Although the health care bills passed by Congress will go a long way toward mending our broken system, Mike knows that this is the beginning of reform, not the end.

The Historic Fight for Health Care Reform

- Created a **healthcare advisory council** in the district with a variety of members to gather local input on healthcare issues
- Spoke on the floor on the need for health care reform; “*The status quo is unsustainable.*”
- Signed letter from Rep. Polis to leadership asking them to **consider the needs of small businesses** when developing a surtax
- **Voted for the House health care bill** – H.R.3962, the Affordable Health Care for America Act
- **Was one of only two men to speak in opposition to the Stupak-Pitts anti-choice amendment to the House healthcare bill**
- Sent several letters to leadership **urging the inclusion of key provisions in the final bill** such as closing the Medicare prescription drug donut hole, ending the antitrust exemption enjoyed by insurance companies, retaining cost-curbing delivery system reforms, protecting Disproportionate Share (DSH) payments to all safety-net hospitals, and protecting middle-class workers from taxes on their insurance plans
- Sent letter to leadership requesting that the DSH payment cuts within the health care reform bill **exempt children’s hospitals** due to their unique position



- Sent letter to Speaker Pelosi urging her to retain the provision that allows the Secretary of HHS to **negotiate Medicare Part D drug prices** in the health reform bill
- Spearheaded letter to leadership urging that the final health care bill would ensure Illinois hospitals were able to **access newly-available residency positions** to train needed physicians
- **Voted for the Senate-passed health care bill, H.R. 3590, and the reconciliation or “fixes” bill, H.R. 4872**
- **Led the charge against the inclusion of anti-choice language in the final health care bill** and refused to support a bill that would compromise a woman’s right to choose until leadership pledged not to allow for a side-deal or amendment that would allow Rep. Stupak’s anti-choice language back into the bill. (Stupak’s amendment essentially would prohibit a woman from paying for abortion even with her own money.) Since leadership needed his support, **Rep. Quigley was able to help pass reform while also protecting a woman’s right to choose by using his vote strategically.**
- Working closely with Rep. DeGette to ensure that when implementing the Nelson provision in the Senate bill, **HHS mitigates the harmful effects.** (For example, allowing women to write one check per year to pay for abortion coverage rather than a separate check each month)

"It was a privilege to be a part of this historic night and pass a bill that gives nearly 70,000 of my constituents access to health care coverage they didn't previously have. Amidst the heightened rhetoric of this debate, we have to remember that this bill tells insurance companies they can't deny Americans coverage because of a preexisting condition or catastrophic illness.

While I am pleased that we gave the American people the fair and transparent up-or-down vote they deserve, I'm also aware that this bill is not perfect. I will not give up my tenacious fight to make sure every woman has access to the health care she needs and her rights afford. This bill is not perfect, but it is a crucial place to start from which we will review, refine, and most importantly, help millions of American families get the coverage they deserve for the first time in generations."

Other Health Care Efforts

- Cosponsored the **Breast Cancer Protection Act**, H.R. 1691, which requires insurance companies to allow women who have had mastectomies, and treatments for breast cancer, to remain in the hospital for a minimum of 48 hours
- Spoke on floor in support of **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, giving a voice to the millions of women who suffer domestic violence each year
- Signed a letter to the President supporting \$1.75 billion for the **Global Fund** in FY11 (the largest funding source for HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria)
- Cosponsored H.R. 2381, the **Nurse and Health Care Worker Protection Act**, which requires the Secretary of Labor to develop safety standards that will eliminate the manual lifting of patients that nurses must currently endure and implement mechanical devices to help lift patients
- Cosponsored H.R. 1670, the **Community Choice Act**, which gives individuals with disabilities the choice of where to live by allowing Medicaid and Social Security dollars to support them in community-based care.
- Signed a letter supporting full-authorized funding for **Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education** in FY11 budget.
- Signed a letter supporting increased funding for **Community Health Centers** in the FY11 budget, which will benefit 23 community health centers in the 5th District who provide vital health care particularly to low-income and minority constituents.

“President Obama and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi were still scrambling to lock in 216 votes for their health-care bill, with a small group of Democrats -- whose support could be crucial -- holding out for stronger anti-abortion provisions ... Quigley, an abortion-rights supporter, said Friday night Obama can't count on his support if a deal is made with the anti-abortion bloc to get to 216.”

- Lynn Sweet, *Chicago Sun-Times*, 3/21/2010

HIV/AIDS

HIV Travel and Immigration ban

- Made a statement on House floor calling for quick passage of HIV Travel and Immigration ban repeal. The ban prevented non-U.S. citizens who were HIV-positive from traveling or immigrating to the United States unless the Department of Homeland Security granted them a waiver.
- Worked with the **AIDS Foundation of Chicago** to send a letter to Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) calling for speedy **repeal of the ban**
- Shortly after sending the letter to HHS, **President Obama announced the end of the ban on January 2**, during the signing ceremony for the Ryan White Act.

HIV/AIDS programs / The Ryan White CARE Act

- Sent letter to Obama asking that **Ryan White CARE Act** be extended three years.
- Cosponsored H.R. 3792, the **Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act** to extend the federal government's largest funding initiative for people living with HIV and AIDS.
- Supported **increased funding for all HIV/AIDS programs in the FY11 budget**, including programs such as Ryan White Program, Minority AIDS Initiative, National HIV/AIDS strategy, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), and others
- Supported language in the HHS, Labor, Education appropriations bill that retains the Syringe Exchange Language, allowing **government funds to fund syringe exchanges programs** proven to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS and other blood borne diseases

"I look forward to the President's signature on this bill, but more eagerly to the day when we find a cure for this ferocious disease which has claimed too many of our friends and loved ones."

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Blood Donation Policy

- Led the charge to apply pressure to the FDA to reexamine its current blood donation policy, which prevents gay men from donating blood. Sent a letter, signed by key congressional leaders, to the **FDA urging it to reexamine current policy**.
- Staff met with leaders at FDA, CDC, and blood bank officials to discuss a reexamination of the FDA's antiquated donation policy.
- After ignoring calls from Congress and refusing to reexamine its donor policy for years, thanks to the efforts of Rep. Quigley, the **FDA announced that it would be reexamining its donor policy** in June 2010.

Other Efforts

- **Cosponsored** the following bills that address the fight against HIV/AIDS:
 - Community AIDS and Hepatitis Prevention Act, H.R.179
 - The Early Treatment for HIV Act, H.R. 1616
 - Responsible Education About Life Act, H.R.1551
 - Helping Fill the Medicare Rx Gap Act of 2009, H.R. 2777 (original co-sponsor)

This bill also helps seniors who fall into the Medicare Rx Gap to pay for their drugs.

- Signed Rep. Holt letter to Speaker Pelosi re: counting **State Drug Assistance Program** funds toward true out of pocket costs allowing individuals with HIV/AIDS to get out of the Medicare doughnut hole faster
- Cosponsored H.R. 1616, the **Early Treatment for HIV Act of 2009**, to give states the option of providing Medicaid coverage for certain low-income HIV-infected individuals.
- Signed a letter to the President supporting \$1.75 billion for the **Global Fund** in FY11 (the largest funding source for HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria)
- Cosponsored H. Res. 308 to **honor the life, legacy, and memory of Pedro Pablo Zamora y Diaz**, an extraordinary educator and activist, and a pioneer in the battle against the HIV/AIDS epidemic

HOUSING

Loan Modifications / Homeowner Rights and Assistance

- Introduced and passed two amendments to the regulatory reform bill, one that **increased transparency in Treasury’s loan modification program**. **The amendment came directly from a constituent request** and was developed with the assistance of the Financial Services committee. (The second amendment strengthened regulatory agency’s ability to regulate for systemic risk.)
- Wrote a letter to Secretary Geithner asking for Treasury to proactively implement Quigley’s loan modification amendment to H.R.4173
- Actively investigating issues relating to the **rights of mortgagees**, including loan modification and the right to access records
- Hosted staff briefing on a mortgage payment assistance program for unemployed homeowners
- Wrote a letter to Secretary Geithner suggesting area of the **Home Affordable Modification Program** that need to be reformed
- Voted to **extend the First-Time Homebuyer tax credit for qualifying members of the Armed Services** who served abroad in 2009

“I was struggling to make ends meet, and Congressman Quigley not only personally listened to my story and offered help, but took it a step further and wrote legislation to prevent this from happening to anyone else.”

-Maribel Ayala of Chicago, on regulatory reform amendment

Homelessness / Low-Income Housing

- Sent letter to Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Donovan about **loss of funding for homeless services**
- Met with several **homeless advocacy groups** including Mercy Housing Lakefront, Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness, and Corporation for Supportive Housing
- Sent Chicago delegation letter to HUD Secretary Donovan concerned about loss of funding for homeless services
- Supported \$300 million in funding above the President’s request for the **McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Grant Program**
- Wrote a letter to HUD Secretary Donovan asking about the effect of raising rent and income caps for **Section 42 housing**

Other Efforts

- Locally, participated in the **Night Ministry's** Open Door Shelter
- Joined **Livable Communities Task Force** to generate ideas and organize support for livable housing
- **Cosponsored several bills** to create livable and sustainable housing communities, stabilize the housing market, and revitalize neighborhoods hurt by many foreclosures:
 - H.R.3715, the Community Revitalization and Restoration Act of 2009
 - H.R.3734, the Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act of 2009
 - H.R.3921, the First-Time Homebuyer Tax Credit Guarantee Act of 2009
 - H.R.932, the Community Regeneration, Sustainability, and Innovation Act of 2009
 - H.R.1479, the Community Reinvestment Modernization Act of 2009
 - H.R.1993, the First-Time Homebuyer Credit Extension Act of 2009
 - H.R.4400, the Nonprofit Mortgage Licensing Clarification Act of 2009



“A big part of the American Dream is to own a home, and our brave men and women in uniform deserve every option we can provide to help them achieve that dream.”

IMMIGRATION

See also: Foreign Policy, Equality

Representing one of the most ethnically diverse districts in Illinois, Mike understands firsthand how critical immigrants are to our community. As globalization shrinks our world, establishing a fair system to account for the movement of people across and within our borders becomes increasingly important. Comprehensive immigration reform must do what is right, what is just, and what is fair for all. Mike is working toward concrete and pragmatic solutions for environmentally-sensitive border security. Mike also believes that we must document the estimated 12 million undocumented immigrants currently in the U.S.

Comprehensive Immigration Reform

- Sent letter to President in support, cosponsored Rep. Gutierrez's **Comprehensive Immigration Reform bill, H.R. 4321, CIR ASAP** (Comprehensive Immigration Reform for America's Security and Prosperity). Will continue to work with Rep. Gutierrez to **extend this bill's coverage to binational LGBT individuals, couples, and families.**
- Spoke on the House floor to express the sentiment that "comprehensive" immigration reform must include everyone – including LGBT bi-national couples
- Working hard to extend and eventually make permanent the **Visa Waiver Program (VWP)**. **Got VWP included in Comprehensive Immigration Reform bill**
- **Met with Polish leaders** including Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski, Polish Undersecretary of State Mariusz Handzlik and Polish Ambassador to the U.S. Robert Kupiecki, to discuss the importance of including Poland as a programmatic country in the VWP

"For generations, immigrants have come to Chicago to make a better life for themselves and for their families and in the process, they helped shape and grow our City. Immigrants helped build our skyscrapers, provided the hard work for our industries, and established civic and religious organizations that tend to and care for our neighborhoods and communities."

Other Efforts

- Cosponsored H.R. 1791, which **excludes foreign students** who have earned PhDs at US universities from the **H1-B visa quota**
- Cosponsored the Development, Relief and Education of Alien Minors Act (DREAM Act). This bipartisan bill would **provide immigration relief to a select group of students** who grew up in the United States, who have good moral character, and who are pursuing a college education or have enlisted in the military.

CASEWORK SUCCESS STORY: HELP WHEN HE NEEDED IT MOST

One of the Congressman's constituents was homeless and living out of a garage. He had been robbed, and all of his identification was stolen - including proof of his legal resident status in the United States. Without identification, he was unable to receive his Social Security benefits so he walked miles to Quigley's office and asked for help. Quigley's casework staff worked with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to expedite his case, and the constituent was able to obtain a duplicate green card. With this photo identification, Social Security was able to release his benefits, and he is now on track to putting his life back together.

JUDICIARY

As a lawyer and a member of House Committee on the Judiciary, Mike's background gives him a unique perspective on judicial issues. Mike is committed to passing legislation that protects civil liberties, ensures equality for all people, and above all, upholds the Constitution. A functioning, independent Judiciary is essential to a healthy democracy, and Mike is proud to play an important role and casting his vote on issues crucial to justice for all.

Reforming our Criminal Justice System

- Cosponsored H.R. 1459, the Fairness in **Cocaine Sentencing Act**, which **eliminates mandatory minimums** for crack cocaine and restrictions on judicial authority to grant probation or suspended sentences
- Cosponsored **4 additional measures to eliminate mandatory minimums** for federal crack cocaine sentencing and eliminate the disparity between crack and powder cocaine
- Sent a letter to the Cook County Public Defender's office in support of **Judge A.C. Cunningham's** decision to preclude any further death penalty case action pending a refurbishing of funds for the **Capital Litigation Trust Fund**
- Cosponsored H.R. 1064, the **Youth PROMISE Act** which establishes grants for assessing and developing standards and evidence-based practices to prevent juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity
- **Cosponsored the Civil Access to Justice Act, H.R. 3764**, to reauthorize the Legal Services Corporation Act, which has not been reauthorized by Congress since 1977. The Legal Services Corporation is a private, nonprofit, federally funded corporation that helps to provide legal assistance to low-income people in civil cases.
- **Cosponsored the Justice for Survivors of Sexual Assault Act of 2009**, which would create an annual reporting mechanism for rape kit backlogs across the nation; requires states to be responsible for the full, upfront cost of rape kit examinations; and requires that health professionals notify victims that they have a right to a rape kit examination free of charge
- **Voted for the impeachment G. Thomas Porteous, Jr.**, judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, for high crimes and misdemeanors, after

"We can't try to impose the ultimate penalty of death without providing people who cannot afford their own attorney the adequate public resources to defend themselves. It flies in the face of not only our Constitution, but our moral compass."

evidence presented in Judiciary committee revealed that Porteous had accepted a multitude of kickbacks in exchange for favorable rulings and undue influence in court

Consumer Protection Advocacy

- Questioned witnesses on issues ranging from the **Satellite Home Viewer Act** to the **Railroad Antitrust Enforcement Act** to **The Role of Bankruptcy and Antitrust Law in Financial Regulation Reform**
- **Cosponsored the Organized Retail Crime Act of 2009**, which seeks to combat, deter, and punish individuals and enterprises engaged in **nationally and internationally organized crime** involving theft of retail merchandise, a nationwide problem of an increasing scale that is expected to cost American companies and consumers more than \$30,000,000,000 annually

Homeland Security

- Participated in hearings on **reauthorizing provisions of the PATRIOT Act**. Drove hard-line questions to witnesses and members about the Department of Justice and Administration's stance on issues such as National Security Letters and wiretapping
- Voted in favor of **tough but sensible amendments to the Patriot Reauthorization Act** to ensure that we preserve and extend the government's authority to continue to use important investigative tools to combat terrorism **while providing additional important safeguards to protect Americans' privacy**



Other Efforts

- **Spoke before panel comprised of former and current NFL players** during full committee hearing to **investigate the issue of football head injuries**; argued that in addition to focusing on the athletes who play in front of fans on Sunday afternoons, we must focus on the ones who play in front of their family, friends, and peers on Friday nights because **the norms of the NFL become the norms of high school football players**
- **Cosponsored the Child Protection Improvement Act, H.R. 146**, which would support child serving organizations nationwide, including organizations like **Big Brothers/Big Sisters**, in **conducting cheap, quick, and accurate background checks**, returning results in under a week for less than \$20. The pilot program has conducted 68,000 checks, and identified over 4,000 potential volunteers with serious criminal records, including convictions for child abuse, molestation, and murder.

- **Cosponsored the Foster Care Mentoring Act**, which would authorize grants for states to establish foster care mentoring programs, provide funding to begin a national public awareness campaign for mentor recruitment programs and allow federal student loan forgiveness for those who volunteer to mentor a child in foster care

LABOR

- Cosponsored H.R. 1409, the **Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA)**
- Supports Davis-Bacon **prevailing wage provisions**
- Cosponsored legislation to provide **Iron Working training to Native Americans**
- Committed to **protecting employee health benefit plans from taxation**



- Sent a delegation **letter to Resurrection Healthcare** calling on them to meet with **AFSCME** representatives
- Voted in support of H.R. 2847, the **Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment (HIRE) Act**, which provides tax incentives for businesses that hire and retain new workers
- Cosponsored H.R. 1881, the Transportation Security Workforce Enhancement Act, which **subjects TSA employees (including screeners) to the protections of the federal civil service system, including the right to collective bargaining**
- Cosponsored H.R. 235, the **Social Security Fairness Act**, which would repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset in current Social Security law. This impacts teachers, police officers, firefighters, postal workers, civil servants, and nurses who begin second careers which require them to pay into the Social Security system
- Cosponsored H.R. 413, Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act, which would **provide public safety officers basic collective bargaining rights** in states that currently don't provide them

“It’s important for us today to remember that we need more game-changers - that there are more wrongs to right, and that there are inequalities and injustices to remedy.” (- on the Equal Pay Act)

LOCAL PROJECTS

See also: Reinventing Government/Earmark Reform

- **Working tirelessly with state/ local governments, agencies, and non-profits, to help bring critical federal funding back to the district** and support crucial services upon which the community relies, all done in the most open and transparent manner.
- Introduced H.R. 4861 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1343 West Irving Park Road in Chicago as the "**Steve Goodman Post Office Building**". Legislation currently pending review in the Oversight Committee, 'musical' unveiling of naming plaque to be planned following passage, expected late spring.
- Helped secure over \$130 million in grants for FY2009, including:
 - \$300,000 in grant funding for **partial reconstruction of North Park University's library**, which was severely damaged in the 2008 flood
 - Almost \$2 million in grant funding for the expansion of Head Start in the District
 - Over \$1 million for affordable housing
- Worked with Army Corps of Engineers to ensure that work be completed efficiently on a \$2,253,846 **stream bank erosion plan on the North Branch of the Chicago River**
- Set forth a clear set of guidelines and principles for FY2011 funding requests and again **pledged not to fund for-profit entities** (only local government and not-for-profit organizations that serve the district). Stated that requests must **provide a justified use of taxpayers' dollars, offering a clear plan and budget**. Also, to ensure both input and proper scrutiny, projects will be made available for review by the branches of local and state governments impacted by the proposals
- Immediately posted FY2011 appropriation requests online. Includes funding requests for education, public safety, transportation, health care, environmental projects
- Quigley and his staff toured the district, held open office hours for public input, and gave due consideration to all appropriation requests that were submitted.
- One of Quigley's first actions in Congress was to introduce a bill to permanently ban corporate earmarks. In March, **the House followed Quigley's proposal** for FY 2011 and banned requests for for-profits.

“In Washington, House Appropriations Committee Chairman David Obey (D-Wis.) announced the committee would not approve earmarks to for-profit corporations for the next year. U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley (D-Ill.) claimed some of the credit for the decision because one of the first bills he introduced when he took office a year ago was to ban the practice.”

- *Abdon Pallasch, Chicago Sun-Times, 3/11/2010*

- Secured **multiple appropriations in FY2010 spending bills**. Has visited nearly all sites to ensure that the funding will be used efficiently and transparently:

Village of Melrose Park Police Department

\$300,000 for a Community Wide Wireless Surveillance System

Uhlich Children's advantage Network (UCAN)

\$100,000 for Violence Prevention/ Youth leadership development program

Center on Halsted

\$475,000 for SAGE program (Services and Advocacy for LGBT Elders)

Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center

\$125,000 for Creation of new Pediatric Primary Care Clinic

North River Commission (NRC) After School Enrichment Program

\$100,000 to support after school enrichment programs in area Chicago Public Schools

Children's Memorial Hospital

\$500,000 towards construction of the Comprehensive Cardiac Unit (CCU)

Metra Commuter Rail

\$8 million for expansions and extensions

CTA

\$1.5 million for Circle Line/ Ogden Corridor New Starts

Pace Suburban Bus

\$1.3 million to purchase federally mandated para-transit vehicles for Chicago service

Puerto Rican Cultural Center

\$100,000 for HIV/AIDS outreach to the Puerto Rican/ Latino community

Chicago Shoreline Protection Program

\$194,000 to provide storm damage protection to the Lake Michigan shoreline and in particular to Lake Shore Drive

McCook and Thornton Reservoirs

\$19,376,000 to complete the McCook and Thornton Reservoirs, bringing them fully on-line

“When properly planned and executed with complete public oversight and transparency, federal funding can create jobs and spur economic activity while making vital long term investments in our neighborhoods.”

MILITARY PROCUREMENT

See also: Reinventing Government, Foreign Affairs

Mike is committed to ensuring that our troops and our military families have the resources and support they need to protect our nation. However, he believes that smarter spending – not more spending – makes us safer. With less than 24 hours to review the Defense spending bill, Mike and his staff identified nearly 1,000 earmarks for private companies and hundreds of unnecessary and unrequested military equipment, while several mission-critical projects went under-funded. Mike believes we must follow through on President Obama’s promise to reinvent and restructure government to meet the challenges of the 21st century, and when it comes to our nation’s security, the mission matters more than ever.

- Voted against Defense Appropriations bill because it included billions of dollars in **wasteful projects** – like the VH-71 presidential helicopter, extra C-17 cargo planes, and the JSF second engine – and earmarks to for-profits at a time when our government is extremely indebted. It also included billions of dollars **for military equipment not requested by the Department of Defense** or the President.
- **Wrote op-ed** against 12 additional \$140million/each **F-22s**, spoke on House floor
- Spoke out against another expensive, little-used, and potentially deadly aircraft, **the V-22 Osprey** – a fixed-wing helicopter hybrid that has run **180% over budget and killed 30 people** due to malfunctions.
- Spoke out against funding the **unrequested and unnecessary Gulfstream Jets** in the Defense Appropriations Bill. Funding was ultimately removed.
- Introduced a bipartisan resolution **commending the Army for its energy efficiency** and sustainability initiatives, that will save the government money while enhancing mission effectiveness and saving lives in the process
- Voted in favor of **two amendments sponsored by Rep. Flake** – the **first** striking 75 earmarks to for-profit entities and the second striking 553 earmarks to for-profit entities.
- Signed letter to Skelton & McKeon opposing the JSF 2nd engine in the Defense Authorization bill

“If we can’t get our finances in order, how can we ask taxpayers to trust us with their hard-earned dollars? How can we ask taxpayers to tighten their belts when our balance sheet is so unbalanced?”

REINVENTING GOVERNMENT

Fiscal Responsibility, Reform, Transparency, Accountability

Reforming, streamlining, and reinventing government has been central to Mike's efforts as a public servant, whether in Cook County or in Washington. Mike believes that the best form of government is an open and honest government, one that serves its people and not a special interest. Mike will continue to fight for reform to ensure that taxpayer funds are spent responsibly, lawmakers are operating honestly and effectively, and government is reflective of the country's needs.

Project Shield (Cook County)

- Sent letter to Government Accountability Office (GAO) asking for an investigation into the effectiveness of **Project Shield**, a \$43 million over-budget and behind-schedule Homeland Security program, citing that not only was this a misuse of funds, but was leaving Americans less safe
- Expressed concern that the **GAO does not have the resources** to track how Homeland Security funds are spent. While the scope and authority of the GAO have expanded, its staff and budgetary levels have barely increased

Fiscal Responsibility

- Cosponsored H.R. 2920, the statutory **Pay-As-You-Go Act** of 2009. The "PAYGO" rule states that Congress can only spend a dollar if it saves a dollar elsewhere.
- Introduced a "**Sense of the House**" resolution **establishing debt and deficit reduction targets:** by 2018, to reduce the debt to 60% of GDP and to reduce the deficit to 3% of GDP. This resolution sets the broad objectives of Quigley's reform agenda and can help Congress reach a bipartisan consensus on the seriousness of our long-term financial situation
- Cosponsored H.R.4653, to **more accurately account for Fannie and Freddie liabilities**, which have received a blank check from Treasury, by putting them on-budget
- Sent letter to Chairman Levin asking for him to look into **alternatives to the Windfall Elimination Provision**, which hurts the pensions of government workers and immigrants

"Simply put, government should operate like any household does every day – sensibly," said Rep. Quigley. "You live within your means, you pay for what you buy, and you plan for the future. You wouldn't plan an addition onto your home until you paid your child's tuition bill."

There are no sacred cows.

- **Murtha:** Voted in favor of conducting an ethics investigation into the late Rep. John Murtha. Quigley's vote was against the wishes of Democratic leadership.
- **Rangel:** Was one of first Democrats to initially say that Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY) should step aside from his powerful post as Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means when an ethics panel found he violated House rules

- **Countrywide:**

- Sent letter to Chairman Edolphus Towns (D-NY) of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee **requesting subpoenas** for Countrywide Financial/Bank of America records of the "Friends of Angelo" Program in order to unearth whether policymakers and other influential government officials were given preferential treatment on loans.

"It's harder to pass bills if you make waves," the House freshman concedes. "But if you just act like a lemming, you don't really change things."

- Started as the lone voice of dissent on the OGR committee, insisting that he would vote with the Minority in favor of issuing subpoenas
- Sent a letter with Rep. Paul Hodes (D-NH) to Reps. Towns and Issa encouraging them to consider issuing a subpoena and acquiring access to the documents
- **Quigley's efforts ultimately led to the OGR committee opening a larger investigation**

Ending Pay to Play

- Introduced H.R. 3427 – State Ethics Law Protection Act, which would prevent the Federal Highway Administration from withholding funding for states reforming their anti-corruption and pay-to-play laws, like Illinois

Leading By Example

- Co-sponsored H.R. 4255 – Stop the Automatic Pay Raise for Members of Congress in Fiscal Year 2011 Act – to **refuse congressional pay raises**
- **Turned back \$100,000 of office budget** to the U.S. Treasury



Earmark Reform

- In July, Congressman Quigley Introduced House Resolution 614, to prohibit appropriation requests for for-profit entities (**banning corporate earmarks**). Under the proposal, funding requests for public and not-for-profit entities would still be admissible. In March, 2010, the Appropriations Committee implemented his idea imposing a one-year moratorium on for-profit earmarks.
- Voted against **earmarks** for for-profit entities in the Defense Appropriations bill
- Published his **appropriation requests** for non-profit and public works on his Web site for public review immediately after submitting. Has since posted all awards as well
- Set forth **statement of principles to public regarding project funding**; held open office hours for public input and assistance
- Cosponsored **H.Res. 440**, amending the Rules of the House to **strengthen public disclosure** of earmark requests by putting every request online at the time they are made
- Cosponsored H.R. 2038, **Clean Law for Earmark Accountability Act**, to prohibit Members of Congress from receiving contributions from entities that receive earmarks

Transparency

- **Established the Bipartisan Transparency Caucus**: created with Rep. Darrell Issa (R-CA) to serve as a resource for Members of Congress on bipartisan open government initiatives. The Caucus will promote legislation that requires federal information to be freely accessible, as well as advocate for new initiatives that support transparency and accountability.
- **Introduced landmark transparency legislation – the Transparency in Government Act**, multi-faceted bill that would bring unprecedented access and accountability to the federal government. Quigley's comprehensive bill emphasizes transparency throughout the federal government by:
 - Establishing new definitions for lobbyists and stricter rules governing how and with whom they meet
 - Creating the first-ever searchable, sortable, and downloadable database for earmarks, where taxpayers can see all appropriations in one place
 - Improving public access to information about Members of Congress, including disclosure of financial information, travel reports, gifts, and earmark requests
 - Requiring committees to post all roll call votes and video of hearings and mark-ups online
 - Improving oversight and accuracy of USAspending.gov (federal contracting Web site) by allowing the public to report errors and requiring audits of the information on the site
 - Instructing all FOIA requests of federal agencies be published online promptly after they are completed

- Launched **new Web site** that shows daily calendar/votes, positions (campaign site shows contributions before the election commission does)
- Cosponsored H.Res. 554 to require that **legislation and conference reports be available on the Internet for 72 hours** before consideration by the House.
- Cosponsored H.R. 3965, to require **full and complete public disclosure of the terms of home mortgages held by Members of Congress**

Military Spending – Spend Smarter, Be Safer

- See *Military Procurement*

TARP

- Stated that TARP shouldn't be used to pay for non-emergency, although important, spending (TARP was passed during extraordinary circumstances in which a financial catastrophe appeared imminent.)
- Spoke out in support of strengthening authority of the **Government Accountability Office**, the body tasked with overseeing TARP
- Voted for Rep. Kucinich's amendment which **gives the GAO access to certain activities of the Federal Reserve**, which has recently purchased an unprecedented number of assets and now warrants greater oversight (balance sheet = over \$2 trillion)

Financial Services Reform

- Voted in support of H.R. 4173, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which **takes aim at Wall Street while protecting community banks**. The measure ensures that community banks will pay less in deposit insurance assessments, will subject non-bank competitors of community banks to comprehensive federal supervision, and will exempt community banks from CFPA examination and enforcement.
- Questioned former Bank of America CEO **Ken Lewis** in committee hearing on the merger of Merrill Lynch that resulted in Bank receiving \$20 billion in bailout funds. Asked him about a possible conflict of interest with the asset manager BlackRock, 49% of which is now owned by Bank of America
- Questioned former Treasury Sec. **Hank Paulson** on the BofA/Merrill merger, asked why the government allowed Bear Stearns to fail, but decided to save Fannie, Freddie, AIG
- Cosponsored **H.R. 627, the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act**. This bill seeks to establish fair and transparent laws concerning the extension of credit. Calls for companies to give consumers 45 days notice before raising their interest rates and ensures that consumers can put a credit limit on their card

- **Cosponsored H.R. 2897, the Bank Accountability and Risk Assessment Act**, which seeks to shine a light on the systemic risk that caused our financial crisis. This bill directs the FDIC to impose a systemic risk assessment, at least annually, and in addition to the regular annual assessment and emergency special assessments, on all systemically important depository institutions.
- “This is who I am,” Quigley, an outspoken reformer from a safe seat in Chicago, told POLITICO afterward. “You can’t change your DNA when you get here.”*
- **Introduced two amendments to H.R. 4173 – Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2009 – based on constituent concerns.** The first provides greater fairness and transparency to homeowners who may have been improperly denied a loan modification on their mortgage without any explanation, by making public the formula used by lenders to calculate the availability of loan modification. The second amendment **gives regulators the ability to take a bird’s-eye view of Wall Street** by allowing them to identify systemic problems and broadly enforce stricter standards rather than only being allowed to focus on the individual firms.
 - Lead cosponsor of upcoming **legislation to assist Community Banks and reform the commercial real estate market**

Other Efforts

- Voted for **regulatory reform bill**, which passed the House
- **Voted against the first House “jobs bill”** because he believed we can’t sacrifice our long term fiscal sustainability and burden future taxpayers with a bill they can’t pay. Quigley believed we should pay for a jobs bill through the normal budget process, or at least with some time to review the spending items, and not through an 11th hour vote on a bill that had been available for only about 12 hours



- Voted for, spoke out in support of **Whistleblower** Protection Enhancement Act, H.R. 1507
- At the **Toyota Recall Hearing**, questioned Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and Mr. Toyoda, President and CEO of Toyota, about safety defects and recalls.
 - Asked Mr. LaHood why NHSTA, the government body that oversees vehicle safety, issued a voluntary Event Data Recorder (EDR)/black box standard that allows companies to choose whether to install black boxes. Stated that black boxes should be required and accessible to all who need it, including police (Currently, the software necessary to read the data is proprietary.)
 - Stressed that NHSTA needs to be adequately resourced to investigate all defects
- **Cosponsored bill introduced by Rep. Speier** requiring new vehicles be equipped with black boxes, which can be read by NHTSA administrators
- **Cosponsored H.R. 3264, Federal Internship Improvement Act**, which would establish consistent reporting requirements so that the Office of Personnel Management could judge agency implementation of internship programs, and creates a central clearinghouse so that agencies can recruit qualified interns who interned for another agency
- **Cosponsored H.R. 4098, Secure Federal File Sharing Act**, which instructs the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to issue rules regulating the use of “open” peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing software on government computers. P2P allows computers to share files, a necessary and useful function in a work place, but potentially disastrous if an outside source gains access.

“If we can’t get our finances in order, how can we ask taxpayers to trust us with their hard-earned dollars? How can we ask taxpayers to tighten their belts when our balance sheet is so unbalanced? To earn the public’s trust, our government needs to be more transparent, more accountable, and more honest.”

SMALL BUSINESS

Mike believes that small businesses are the economic engine that helps run the district, and he is actively working to ensure that local companies have the resources necessary to succeed in this difficult economic climate.

- Cosponsored H.R. 2695, the **Credit Card Fair Fee Act**, which will provide merchants and businesses the ability to collectively bargain the interchange fees, also known as “**swipe fees**,” that credit card issuers charge to process a transaction. As it stands, merchants are unable to negotiate fees and often subject to random changes and carrying fee scales.
- Signed letter expressing concerns about the **Ticketmaster/Live Nation** merger
- **Voted against Kanjorski amendment** to Financial Services bill that would have subjected small businesses to **costly regulation** under Sarbanes-Oxley
- In March 2010, the House passed with Mike’s support H.R. 4849, the Small Business and Infrastructure Jobs Tax Act which provided **\$3.2 billion in small business tax credits** and a **\$13.2 billion extension of the Build America Bond Program**.
- Supported the health care reform package which **protected small businesses by exempting the vast majority from the share responsibility requirement** and provided **\$40 billion in tax credits** for small businesses to help them offer employee coverage
- **Cosponsored several other bills to help small businesses, including:**
 - H.R. 2360, the SHOP Act*
 - H.R. 1552, the Small Business Formation and Job Creation Act*
 - H.R. 2143, to amend the internal revenue code **to relieve small businesses paying penalties** associated with a failure to report certain transactions*
 - H.R. 690, the MOBILE Cell Phone Act of 2009*
 - H.R. 1557, the Securing America’s Future Economy Commission Act*
 - H.R. 3178, the Small Business Growth Act of 2009.*
 - H.R. 2568, Fairness and Transparency in Contracting Act of 2009*
 - H.R. 3380, Promoting Lending to America’s Small Businesses Act of 2009
 - H.R. 4302, Small Business Job Creation and Access to Capital Act of 2009
 - H.R. 4598, Express Loans Improvements Act of 2010
 - H.R. 4067, the Business Checking Fairness Act of 2009, to **allow small businesses to earn interest on checking accounts**

**Strongly supported by the NFIB, National Federation of Independent Business*

“At a time when everyone is struggling, residents deserve to know that their tax dollars are being used efficiently and strategically ... We must ensure that families and businesses not only land on their feet, but have the sustainability to stay in our community for years to come.”

TRADE

Mike believes that trade is a vital part of our foreign policy and helps the United States create and maintain important alliances and friendships across the globe. He believes trade is critically important to our economic well-being by providing markets for American goods and sustaining millions of jobs in vital American industries.

- **Joined U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Ron Kirk** for a discussion and tour of **Navistar**, one of the world's leading truck and engine manufacturers, located in Melrose Park in the 5th District
- Strong defender of the **environment** and **labor rights** and believes that **trade agreements should provide protections for both**
- Supports fair trade that respects each party and does not force a race to the bottom

“Smart trade policy can make the U.S. a leader in clean energy technologies. In addition, green projects like Navistar’s electric truck can be sold worldwide while creating jobs here at home.”

TRANSPORTATION

Mike believes that rebuilding our infrastructure is tantamount to spurring economic growth. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was a step in the right direction. Mike believes it is most important to invest in long-term projects seeking to modernize our national infrastructure, providing efficient and safe transportation of goods and people, reducing congestion and pollution. Mike also believes that transparency and accountability are critical throughout the process, so taxpayers can know their hard-earned money is being used efficiently.

Fast facts

- Nearly \$1.4 billion dollars have been allocated to Illinois' roads, transit, and rail systems due to ARRA. **These funds have helped save or create 24,133 Illinois jobs.**
- The region received over \$414 million in ARRA transit funds for Pace, CTA, and RTA, which allowed for the purchase of new equipment and much needed capital improvements.
- In 2009, CDOT was able to do as much resurfacing as they had done in the previous four years combined due to the stimulus bill (ARRA).

Mike's efforts

- Original member of the **Midwest Congressional High Speed Rail Caucus**, a bipartisan, bicameral caucus formed to advance the Midwest's plan for high speed rail
- Helped secure \$1.3 billion to develop and bring high speed rail to Illinois
- Secured funding to help begin the development of the **CTA circle line**
- Has spoken on the floor about an **increased need for transit funding** and the need for a full and complete reauthorization of the highway bill
- Vocal supporter of H.R. 2746, a bill to **allow transit agencies to use federal funds towards operations** as well. Would help prevent more service cuts and layoffs at CTA
- Helped secure a **\$100 million TIGER grant for the CREATE project**, to target six projects benefiting 13 Illinois communities, will support an estimated 1,087 jobs
 - ARRA appropriated \$1.5 billion for TIGER (Transportation Investing Generating Economic Recovery) grants, which are supplementary discretionary grants for the National Surface Transportation System.
 - The Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) program is a partnership between the Department of Transportation, the State of Illinois, the City of Chicago, Metra, Amtrak, and freight railroads.

VETERANS



These brave Americans have chosen to serve their country, and in turn, their country should serve them. Mike works tirelessly to improve healthcare and ensure access to higher education for our veterans. Additionally, his District Office assists veterans with various casework services on a daily basis.

- Joined 83 **World War II veterans from Chicago at the World War II Memorial** to commemorate and celebrate their service and dedication to their country. The trip was made possible by Honor Flight Network, a non-profit organization that brings World War II veterans to the memorial at no cost to the veteran (pictured above, with IL vets)
- Introduced H.Res.936, which **honors soldiers of the Army National Guard of the State of Illinois**, including the 33rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team as they returned home from deployment in Afghanistan. The Resolution acknowledged largest overseas deployment of Illinois National Guard soldiers since World War II and received support from all 19 members of the Illinois delegation.
- Introduced H.R. 4279, the **GI Bill Accelerated Tuition Payment Act of 2009**, a bill that would prevent an institution from denying veterans the opportunity to start classes prior to receiving full payment from the Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- Cosponsored H.R. 147, a bill which would **allow taxpayers to designate a portion of their income tax payment to provide assistance to homeless veterans**
- Voted to **extend the First-Time Homebuyer tax credit for qualifying members of the Armed Services** who served abroad in 2009
- Participated in **"Pizza for Patriots"** – a local organization that sends Chicago-style pizza to those serving overseas



- Co-hosted and starred in a **walk-on role in a production of the Goodman Theatre's *A Christmas Carol***. Free tickets were made available to the special Community Day performance for local servicemen and women and their families. Several attendees would be deploying to Afghanistan in January.
- Met with Easter Seals and veterans from Vietnam, Desert Storm, and OEF/OIF regarding **post traumatic stress disorder**. The veterans shared stories on their active duty service, treatment, and current challenges.
- Hosted a **Veterans Service Fair** for constituents to obtain critical, personalized assistance from a variety of providers. Over 200 veterans visited the Fair held at the Jesse Brown VA Hospital Medical Center, where they were able to seek advice and assistance with employment counseling, education benefits, health benefits, and veterans support group services.

"It's great that our new Congressman put this service fair together to provide real help to veterans. It's one thing to say you support veterans, but another to actually show support like Mike is."

– Roger McGill, constituent, Vietnam Veterans of America

- **Helped a Franklin Park family recover Korean War records** and six medals after 55 years of not knowing what happened to their relative. Esther Banicki spent years trying to find out what happened to her brother. Rep. Quigley requested information on her behalf, and finally got closure.

CASEWORK SUCCESS STORY: FAMILY GETS DAD'S WWI MEDALS

The granddaughter of a (deceased) World War I Veteran came into Quigley's district office asking for assistance in acquiring her grandfather's medals and military records. The casework staff worked with the National Personnel Record Center and was able to get the grandfather's medals, including his Silver Star. When Quigley's staff contacted the granddaughter, she was in tears. Her mother had died the day before, and it was her last wish to get her father's medals to the family.